Subject: Chat with Mark Cohen
From: Mark Cohen <mark.simon.cohen@gmail.com>
To: barriticus@gmail.com

6:16 PM **me**: sup g
6:18 PM **Mark**: i'm spending my days reading history of various stripes
me: I read that as you reading the history of actual stripes and was taken aback by your academic nonsense for a moment
before that, I read it as "vampires"
Mark: i'm sorry for you misunderstanding
6:19 PM *your
me: Thank you!
So, the conspiracy proceeds apace
I've made contact with Andrew Sullivan and Glenn Greenwald, both of whom are now reading the manuscript for the new book and have offered assistance
6:20 PM **Mark**: your networking skills remain impressive
me: and have recruited Barry Eisler, who writes political thrillers, and, more importantly, worked for the CIA in the late '80s to early '90s
meanwhile, been creating a separate black ops division reporting directly to me
6:21 PM recruited from Encyclopedia Dramatica and such
I have entitled it Special Operations LOL
SOLOL
Mark: what kinds of blacks ops do you have in mind, exactly?
6:22 PM **me**: misdirection, hacking, espionage, counter-espionage, anti-Scientology activities, whatever else I think up
the guy running it
was a figure in the anti-Scientology ops
got a felony for his troubles
and they killed his cat
6:23 PM **Mark**: his cat?
me: he also has a tattoo of a Mudkip
yeah, the Scientologists did
he's a British fellow, works in the music industry
but is out in California
anywho
6:24 PM would you be interested in participating in our science improvement project?
perhaps simply by looking over the ideas generated by our other scientists and academics and weighing in?
6:25 PM **Mark**: that could be interesting
me: and of course there's always a room for you in our Dadaist black ops squad!
you didn't happen to see my appearance on Russia Today last week, did you?

can't remember if we're Facebook friends

6:26 PM **Mark**: i didn't get around to watching it, though i read your description

me: I accused the Kremlin of orchestrating the Russian apartment bombings of 1999 at the end

it was a larf

Mark: yeah, i gathered

6:27 PM **me**: after they had introduced me with a picture of my upcoming book, which contains some 2000 words on the same topic

but enough about me and my antics

Mark: the net result being you won't be invited on again

me: how's NYC?

OH NOES

Mark: are you still in texas?

me: yep, Dallas

6:28 PM can't go to Mexico right now

got contacted by a producer out in LA whose dad was on editorial board of The Nation

he wants to raise a lot of money for Project PM and then raise a whole lot more money to start a cable outlet and put me in partial charge of it

6:29 PM so I need to be possessed of internet access right now

Mark: hmm, going into cable seems an odd direction

you going to try to hooking your friend stuck out in east texas up with it?

me: his idea

6:30 PM he would have to first engage in a public self-criticism section and denounce his own crimes against journalism

anyway, the outlet would be tied into the blogging network

insomuch as that a portion of its content would be taken from what our bloggers deem most important

obviously this is all very preliminary

Mark: yeah

6:31 PM not a bad idea, though making it work sounds like it might be more trouble than it's worth

anyways, about the stuff you mentioned

it sounds interesting

me: I'll send you more info soon

Mark: i'm not inclined put make much a time or effort commitment. grad school is a really only conducive to sticking one's head in the sand

6:32 PM sand = books

me: gotcha

again, no time commitment

you can just read over the exchange and weigh in when inclined to do so

was planning on starting these projects with little e-mail lists and then moving

them to the network once software is complete

6:33 PM oh, also
I got Tarn Adams
guy who made Dwarf Fortress
and Liberal Crime Squad

Mark: i guess it's good to combine your various interests together
though it also can't hurt

6:34 PM to have a seriously detail-oriented computer programmer onboard

me: the fellow's pretty erudite
he claims to be not much of a programmer, though
I'm assuming that is self-deprecation
or maybe he just doesn't want to program stuff
anyway, we've got other programmers now

Mark: i'd believe that the actual code he writes is pretty simple

6:35 PM it's the algorithms that are intricate to an absurd extent

me: yeah, that'
what impresses me

6:36 PM as we still have to hammer out details regarding the functioning of the governing network

24 minutes

7:00 PM **me**: okay, will send you an e-mail within the next few days after I've spoken to the others in the sci/journ project

7:03 PM **Mark**: k